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REVIEWED BY *P. J. Greenfield* DATE *3/9/88*

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Unable understand where news media received impression that currently Department/expects Soviets react to Cuban ~~it~~ developments by applying pressure on autobahn traffic. Department has consistently sought discourage inclination press to link Cuban and Berlin situations as well as speculation that pressure on Berlin next on Soviet agenda. Recent press stories out of Germany presumably inspired by German sources predicting that next Communist ~~action~~ tactic would be demand for passports and visas for travel West Germans to West Berlin may well have led news media to conclude they should prepare to cover this possible eventuality. It is also logical for correspondents conclude that access routes are one of places Soviets might apply pressure should they decide heat up Berlin issue.

In conversations with newsmen Department taking line that Soviets may well be reassessing their situation in light Cuban developments and that we have no indication at present time that Soviets intend resume harassment Allied position Berlin in immediate future.

END

RUSK

Drafted by:

P:HBCox - 11/7/62

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

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Comments:

EE BTF: Mr. Hillenbrand
P: Mr. Burris (substance)
USIA: Mr. Blackman (substance)

EUR/E-Mr. McGowan (substance)

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